

MEMORIAL No. 6.

DUTY ON SUGAR AND MOLASSES.

MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, to the Congress of the United States, for the repeal of the duty on sugar and molasses.

Representa-
tion.

The memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, respectfully represent to your honorable body, that they and their constituents, especially the laboring classes have long regarded the duty of thirty per cent. *ad valorem* on sugar and molasses, imported from abroad for their consumption and daily use, as onerous and oppressive, and tending to enhance the price of these articles of prime necessity which enter into the consumption of every family in every State of this widely extended Union.

Duty to pro-
tect

Your memorialists are satisfied, from an examination of this subject, that this duty or tax of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* on sugar and molasses, was imposed to protect the cultivation of sugar in the State of Louisiana, to which State the sugar cane is not indigenious, it being the natural growth of the tropics, only, and by such protection, the few planters therein have amassed large fortunes, deriving princely returns from the capital invested in that product of their agriculture, and are now enabled, without the protection, to make fair profits on their investments.

Fortunata.

Should be re-
pealed.

Your memorialists, whilst they are not in favor of legislation for any particular class or pursuit, are, at the same time, unwilling to recommend any measure which might prove destructive to any real interest, but inasmuch as the returns from the sugar planting region show that those engaged in that pursuit, (and but few in number,) are enabled to make fair and remunerative profit on their capital without this duty, they believe the time has come when this duty, bearing so hard as it does on the laboring classes, should be repealed, and the sugar and molasses placed, with tea and coffee, on the free list. Indeed it seems to your memorialists a duty incumbent on your honorable body, to remove

Free list.

this duty, inasmuch as your honorable body has already made tea and coffee duty free, thereby increasing the consumption of these articles, and to the proper enjoyment of which sugar is indispensable, and the more especially as the Indispensable duties on sugar and molasses, amounting to near five millions of dollars the last year, are not wanted, there being now ^{Not needed.} a surplus of over 25 millions of dollars in the treasury of ^{Surplus now.} the United States, unavailable for any known purposes of government.

Your memorialists would respectfully suggest to your honorable body, that to tax heavily the necessaries of life, ^{Tax on necessaries.} has not been considered the policy of government for many reasons, as it oppresses those least able to bear them, the laboring classes of the community, and your memorialists hope that this principle will continue to distinguish your legislation.

Your memorialists, therefore, in view of these facts, and entertaining the opinion that every tax not necessary for the ^{Repeal the duty.} wants of the government is oppressive and unjust, would respectfully pray your honorable body to repeal the duty on sugar and molasses, and place them where they seem to belong, on the "free list," and by so doing relieve the laboring ^{Free list.} classes of the country from a heavy burden.

APPROVED 22nd January, 1855.

MEMORIAL N^o. 7.

MAILS IN THE INTERIOR.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION for additional mail facilities in the interior of the State.

Resolved, That our Senators be, and are hereby instructed, ^{Instruction.} and our Representatives in Congress requested, to use their influence to procure additional mail service in this State ^{Mail service.} as follows, to wit: A tri-weekly mail from Bloomfield, in Da-